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Street Renamed In Honor of Garnet Douglass Baltimore

Baltimore was the first ever African American graduate of RPI

For Immediate Release
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(September 9, 2005- TROY)- The City of Troy and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute will honor Garnet Douglass Baltimore **this MORNING at 10 a.m.** All members of the media are encouraged to attend this historic event. The ceremony will take place at the corner of Peoples Avenue and 8th Street.

“By all accounts, Garnet Douglass Baltimore was a man of vision who loved the City of Troy,” Tutunjian said Thursday. “For too long his remarkable successes have been overlooked by so many residents of this area. He is responsible for one of the great treasures in the City of Troy and should be an inspiration to many people. The story of his legacy will begin to be told with this great event.”

President Jackson said Wednesday that: “Garnet Baltimore left his mark on this beautiful city and state in so many ways, through the parks, cemeteries, canals, and railroads he had a hand in building. Though most may have forgotten who brought them these magnificent feats of design and engineering, many to this day enjoy the benefits of his work. I applaud Mayor Tutunjian, Troy City Council president Marge DerGurahian, and others in our community who have lead the effort to honor Garnet Baltimore's legacy.”

DerGurahian sponsored legislation earlier this year ceremonially renaming 8th Street from Federal Street to Congress Street as Garnet Douglass Baltimore Street. Eighth Street currently leads directly to Baltimore’s greatest design, Prospect Park. DerGurahian said Wednesday that she hopes Baltimore will begin to be recognized for his amazing talents and determination.

“This is an opportunity for the City of Troy to educate our residents and visitors about Garnet Douglass Baltimore and all his accomplishments,” DerGurahian said. “We can only imagine the determination needed for Mr. Baltimore to pursue higher education before the turn of the 19th Century.”